It never quits

On baking soda

By SHIRLEY W. WALTON
Extension Agent
Baking Soda-A Product that Never Quits

It's remarkable how an old standby like baking soda fits the needs of the 80's so well. Baking soda is a safe, pure product that does a multitude of jobs for just pennies. With today's inflation, homemakers need all the economical products they can find in order to keep the household budgets trimmed.

Baking soda can be used a deodorizer right in the box. an extinguisher for minor grease and electrical fires or for cleaning in many ways.

For cleaning purposes, you may use one of the following three formulas:

1. As a paste mixed together, three parts baking soda and one part water.

2. In a solution dissolve 4 tablespoons baking soda in 1 quart water.

3. As a dry product, sprinkle baking soda straight from the box.

Baking soda can help solve many household problems. Some of them are as follows:

1. If anything can ruin the taste of ice cream, it is stale freezer air. Even ice cubes pick up odors and flavors from this culprit and spoil the taste of beverages. Protect the food in your freezer by using a one pound box of baking soda to absorb freezer smells. For best results, change the box every other month, and recycle the used baking soda, by pouring it down the drain or garbage disposal to clean and deodorize.

2. What would you do if a fat fire started in your frying pan? Would you panic or would you remember that baking soda can come to the rescue? Baking soda can extinguish small grease, oil and electrical fires. When heated it produces carbon dioxide that smothers the flames. First turn off the heat, then stand back and toss generous handfuls of dry baking soda at the base of the flames. Do not use this to put out flames in deep fat, however, as this could spatter the grease and spread the fire.

3. As a safety precaution, always have an emergency fire pail near the kitchen range, garbage or wherever a grease or electrical fire may occur. To make the fire pail, just pour the contents of a one pound box of baking soda into an empty one pound coffee can. Then wrap a bright red fire label around the can. Include on this label, telephone numbers of the fire department and rescue squad and simple instructions for putting out a fire.

4. Simple beauty preparations are often as effective as high price cosmetics. As a facial scrub to deep clean pores and loosen blackheads, baking soda is suitable for women and men. Teenagers will find it especially helpful for problem skin. Wash your face throroughly. Then combine equal parts of baking soda and water in the palm of your hand. Apply the mixture to your face, paying particular attention to blackheads. Rub gently for two to three minutes. Then rinse with very warm water and blot dry with a soft towel.

5. Food storage drawers in refrigerators are prone to some tough stains and odors like dried on meat juices or the remains of long forgotten fruits and vegetables. Baking soda is ideal for cleaning and deodorizing crispers and bins. For easier handling, remove these parts of the refrigerator to the sink. Then wipe them inside and out with a baking soda solution. For stubborn stains and food residue, sprinkle baking soda right from the box and wipe with a damp sponge. Rinse thoroughly with water, wipe dry and replace.

Homemakers, if you have a homemaking question or problem, you may call 352-8244 or write the Appomattox County Extension Office at P. O. Box 488, Appomattox, Va. 24522.

It is always a pleasure to hear from you and to help you.

Homemakers, have a good week!

Recipe of the week
Creamed celery with pecans
4 c. celery, cut diagonally in ½-inch pieces
2T butter
2 T. all-purpose flour
2 c. milk
1 t. salt
¾ c. pecan halves
buttered bread crumbs

Preheat oven to 400°. Grease 1½ quart casserole. Boil celery until tender in enough water to cover; drain. Melt butter over medium heat; stir in flour and add milk slowly to make cream sauce, stirring until thick and smooth. Add salt and well-drained celery. Spoon into prepared casserole, top with pecans, and cover with buttered bread crumbs. Bake at 400°F for 15 minutes.

Rec. meet

On October 2, (Thursday night) at 7:30 p.m. there will be a meeting in the Appomattox Town Office for citizens who are interested in recreational facilities for our children, youth, and adults in the town of Appomattox and in the county.

For further information please contact Bill Britton at 352-8268 or Peggy Lawson at 352-8090.

Correction

In Sept. 18 issue of the paper, it was incorrectly stated that the Rev. James Gafford passed away. The Rev. Gafford's wife passed away. We apologize for the error.

Soybean referendum set

By JAMES A. SMITH
Extension Agent

The soybean referendum will be coming up for a vote in December, 1980. The Soybean Commission has been in existance for a number of years, but every fifth year a referendum is conducted to re-approve the check-off program.

This is a self-imposed tax of ½¢ per bushel imposed at the first point of sale. Funds collected must be used for soybean research, education and promotion. Last year approximately ⅓ of the income was used for international and national market development. Two-thirds was used to support local research and educational activities.

Seven farmers representing the seven areas of soybean production serve without pay and are responsible for administering the funds.

Any person who sold soybeans between January 21, 1978 and January 20, 1981 is eligible to vote upon being properly certified. The referendum will be by mail ballot. Ballots will be mailed to all certified voters on December 10, 1980. Ballots must be marked and mailed by January 21, 1981.

There will be certification forms at this office for you to use. Certification forms must be completed and returned to the Virginia Department of Agriculture by December 15, 1980.

A copy of the 1979 Annual report showing how funds were spent is available from this office.

* * *

Corn that has undergone stress from drought or insect damage may contain aflatoxin. Soybeans do not generally contain aflatoxin, but corn and peanuts are another problem.

The aflatoxin problem is one that has been around a long time. A great deal could be said about how it occurs. Making qualitative and quantitative tests is a fairly complex procedure.

This is a year when I believe you should have your corn checked. Remember, one field can vary from the next. We can have your corn checked at no cost to you. A sample is a minimum of two pounds and a maximum of three pounds of corn.

The report is in parts per billion. Tests that show a level of less than 20 parts per billion are of no concern for animals or human consumption.

Here's how you can help reduce the potential problem. Harvest as soon as corn is dry. Avoid excessive kernel damage. Remove trash and green material in the harvesting process. Start drying or aeration immediately. Don't hold high moisture corn more than six hours without aeration. Do not take more than four days to completely dry 25% moisture corn. Clean up corn that collects in auger wells and pits.

* * *

There is 2, 4, 5, -T and Silvex on the shelves in some stores. You will recall that these materials were taken off the market several years ago.

Apparently there was more of these pesticides in the supply change than anticipated and most effective disposal method is using it according to label directions. When the supply is exhausted that will be the end.

* * *

Many people have asked this past week if I was concerned about herbicide residues carrying over in small grain. The answer is yes. There are real concerns for barley and oats. Dilution is the most effective control and that means plowing.

Remember labels on Aatrex Princep and Dual do not recommend following corn with small grain.

* * *

For those who file tax forms for others (tax practitioners), plan to attend one of the 1980 Farm and Small Business Income Tax Conferences. There are six planned.

Progams, brochures, registration forms are available from this office.

THIS LOVELY "Rose Garden Afghan," and matching pillow, all handmade by Mrs. James A. Lewis, of Appomattox, will be awarded by the Appomattox County Republican Party at the annual Railroad Festival. The winner will be named Sunday, October 12, at 4 p.m. at the Railroad Festival, where it will be on display. Prior to October 11 and 12 (Railroad Festival weekend), it will be on display at Farmers National Bank, Main Street, Appomattox, Virginia, where tickets may be obtained for a chance to own this lovely afghan for a donation of only $1.00. Donations may also be given to any Appomattox County Republican Party member or at Marston Brothers Market, Dairy-Queen or Times-Virginian Printing Corporation. Shown above is Mary Ann Lewis

Happiness is 4-H

By FRANK H. SWEET
Extension Agent

Several 4-H'ers have asked about the 4-H Weekends at Kings Dominion on October 4, 5, 11 and 12. This information was outlined in the September issue of the State 4-H newspaper "Head, Heart, Hands and Health." There was one item left out of the information in the State 4-H newspaper. There must be at least 10 persons in a group in order to receive the discount rate of $7.75 per person. Reservations may be made by sending in the form in the State 4-H newspaper or by calling a toll free number (1-800-552-9912) at Kings Dominion. Payment for tickets may be made when you arrive.

* * *

Next week is National 4-H Week. Watch for a special 4-H Supplement in next week's issue of the Times-Virginian. 4-H programs are sponsored by the Virginia Cooperative Extension Service and are available to all people regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, handicap or political affiliation.

* * *

Teenage 4-H'ers between the ages of 15-19 may be interested in learning more about the International Four-H Youth Exchange (IFYE) Ambassador program. This program provides opportunities to visit other countries, live with host families and gain language experience. More details are available from the Extension Office.

* * *

4-H'ers with an interest in showing dogs may want to participate in a special Fun Match and Kids Dog Show in Campbell County on Saturday, October 4. The show will be held at the Campbell County Vo-Tech Center, which is located 6 miles south of the Lynchburg Airport on Rt. 29. Registration will begin at 12:00 noon and the show will start at 1:30 p.m. Classes will include the typical breed conformation groups, best trick, best costume, best groomed, smallest, largest and funniest dog. We have a few copies of the announcement that was sent out if you would like one.

* * *

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WOW meet set

Woodmen of the World Camp 71 will hold a meeting Oct. 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the WOW building in Appomattox.

Officers and team members are urged to come and prepare for the WOW competition.

The competition will take place at Grottoes, Va., on Oct. 18.

A group of approximately 40 local WOW representatives will travel to Grottoes to participate in the competition.

Fireworks planned

Bang! POP! Bang!

No, it's not the Fourth of July in October. It's bigger and better. It's Saturday night at the Eighth Annual Historic Appomattox Railroad Festival.

Come with your family and friends to Appomattox County High School on October 11, 1980. The spectacular display of aerial fireworks will begin at nine p.m.

Jerry Spate of Farmville and some of the town crew will be launching the best fireworks display Appomattox has ever seen.

Bill Britton, the town manager has asked that all spectators remain on the high school side of Route 727 to ensure safety.

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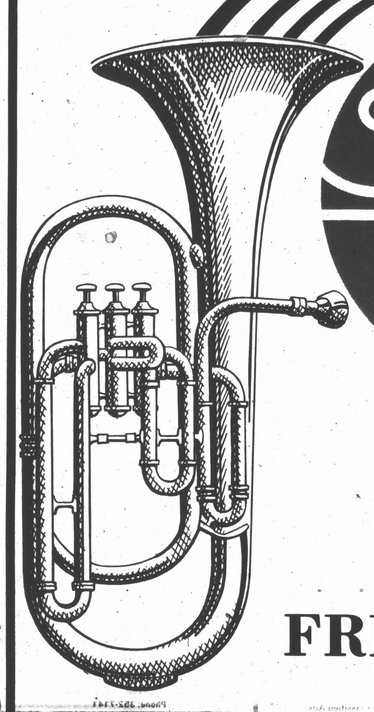

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